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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

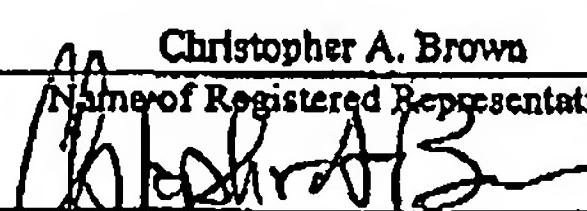
In re patent application of:  
Young et al. Before the Examiner  
Serial No. 10/695,068 J. L. Cumberledge  
Filed October 28, 2003 Group Art Unit 3732  
MULTI-AXIAL, CROSS-LINK  
CONNECTOR SYSTEM FOR SPINAL  
IMPLANTS May 2, 2007

RESPONSE TO FINAL OFFICE ACTION

Mail Stop Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
PO Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In response to the final Office Action dated March 2, 2007, please enter the following amendments and remarks in the above-mentioned patent application. No extensions of time or additional fees are believed necessary for consideration of this paper. However, if any extensions or fees are deemed necessary, the Commissioner is requested to grant any such extensions and to charge such additional fees or credit any overcharges to Deposit Account No. 23-3030, but not to include any payment of issue fees.

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| I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 or facsimile transmitted to 571-273-8300 to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on |
| May 2, 2007  |
| Date of Deposit or Transmission  |
| Christopher A. Brown   |
| Name of Registered Representative  |
|   |
| Signature  |

RESPONSE TO FINAL OFFICE ACTION  
Application No. 10/695,068  
Atty. Dkt. No. 4002-3432

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